

Remarks

The Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections: 35 USC 102 and 103

The independent claims have been amended to recite “means for controlling the advancement” of the punch “from a first position” and “to second position . . . in which said fault line forming portion . . . is advanced to a distance D from said shoulder of said female die, with said film therebetween, said distance D being less than said uncompressed film thickness T.”

Because of the use of the “means plus function” language authorized by 35 U.S.C. 112, paragraph 6, the language previously objected to as functional language by the Examiner is now recited as a structural limitation of the claims. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4225. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
KENYON & KENYON

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By: 

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